(a) whether it is a fact that Government has reduced the unallocated quota of power from the central generating stations to Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government of Gujarat has requested Central Government to reconsider the decision;

(d) if so, Government's stand on the request of Government of Gujarat;

(e) by what time the original quota shall be restored to Gujarat;

(f) whether it is also a fact that Gujarat faces heavy peak power shortage; and

(g) if so, the reasons due to which the unallocated quota of central generating station has been diverted to other States?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The allocation of unallocated power of Central Generating Stations (CGSs) in the Western Region (WR) was revised in February, 2006 and allocation of Gujarat was reduced because Gujarat was relatively comfortable in regard to power supply, selling power to other states/utilities and also under-drawing power from the grid.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) The Government of Gujarat was intimated that the unallocated power in CGSs of WR, has been allocated to the constituent States/UTs of WR keeping in view their relative power supply position and sale of power by Gujarat. The allocation of unallocated power of CGSs is reviewed whenever required depending on the nature of requirement (emergent/seasonal) of the needy States/UTs and the prevailing power supply position of beneficiary States/UTs.

(f) and (g) During the period April—July, 2006, the peak shortage in Gujarat was 15.4%. In comparison, the peaking shortage faced by other major states of WR during the aforesaid period was in the range of 15.8%—26.9%.

Coastal Line of Gujarat

*287. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) the length of coastal line of Gujarat;

(b) whether there is any college, institute or university in Gujarat doing work or research on oceanography;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether there is any proposal to establish such an institute in Gujarat; and

(e) the details of institutes on oceanography in India and whether Gujarat is being ignored inspite of vast coastline?

THE MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) The length of coastal line of Gujarat is about 1600 km.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Ministry has also established the OSTC at Bhavnagar University to cater the needs of various R&D activities in Oceanography. Further, the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), Goa under Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has its branches in various parts of the country (Mumbai, Kochi, Visakhapatnam) and they, also take care of scientific aspects of Oceanography and related research for the coastal and marine areas of the country including that of Gujarat. The Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute of CSIR Lab located in Bhavnagar is actively participating in implementation of 'development of potential drugs from the ocean' Programme of the Ministry, since 1990.

(c) Doesn't arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Under the Ministry of Earth Sciences, oceanographic institutes established are the National Institute of Ocean Technology (Chennai), the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (Hyderabad), the National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research (Goa), the Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management Project Directorate (Chennai) and the Centre for Marine Living Resources and Ecology (Kochi), Also, the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), Goa, under Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

The location of Oceanography centre is not decided by coastline. We have necessary oceanography institute to take care of all national needs, including that of Gujarat. Hence, Gujarat is not ignored at all.